

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DOHA 00752 060644Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OPIC-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SP-02
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /039 W
-----081602 060741Z /11

R 060526Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3706
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS DOHA 752

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, QA
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL--MERIT CIGARETTES

1. DURING ROUTINE VISIT TO DOHA BOYCOTT OFFICE, EMBASSY
COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST WAS MADE AWARE OF POSSIBLE PROBLEM WHICH
PHILIP MORRIS TOBACCO CO. OF RICHMOND, VA., MAY FACE IN MARKETING
MERIT CIGARETTES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. SOMETHING ABOUT THE STRUCTURE
OF THE FILTER ON MERIT CIGARETTES CAUSES TAR TO BE DEPOSITED ON
THE MOUTHPIECE END OF THE WHITE FILTER IN THE FORM OF A SIX
POINTED STAR. THE STAR IS CLEARLY VISIBLE WHEN THE CIGARETTE IS
SMOKED APPROXIMATELY HALF OF ITS LENGTH. (FURTHER SMOKING CAUSES
THE STAR TO BE LOST IN A GENERAL BROWN STAIN.)

2. OUR COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST TOLD BOYCOTT OFFICE OFFICIALS THAT
THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT A SERIOUS MATTER. OFFICE DIRECTOR AGREED
BUT INDICATED THAT HE HAD ALREADY RECEIVED NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS
(INCLUDING ONE FROM THE PALACE) AND HE THEN INTRODUCED OUR MAN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DOHA 00752 060644Z

TO THE LATEST BATCH OF COMPLAINERS WHO WERE SITTING IN HIS
OUTER OFFICE.

3. BOYCOTT OFFICE DIRECTOR IS TRYING TO HEAD OFF COMPLAINTS, BUT
FEARS THAT SALE OF MERIT CIGARETTES AND SUBSEQUENT COMPLAINTS
ABOUT THE STAR APPEARING ON THE END OF THE FILTER ELEMENT MAY
LEAD TO BANNING OF ALL PHILIP MORRIS PRODUCTS, INCLUDING THE

IMMENSELY POPULAR MARLBORO BRAND.
KILLGORE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARABS, BOYCOTTS, TOBACCO PRODUCTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DOHA00752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780235-0782
Format: TEL
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780693/aaaadbuy.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc196e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2480914
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL--MERIT CIGARETTES
TAGS: ETRD, QA, PHILLIP MORRIS TOBACCO COMPANY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc196e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014